

5 **IN THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-35 are pending in the application and are listed as follows:

1. (Original) A method of calculating parity segments comprising:
 providing a parity calculation module configured to calculate one or
10 more parity segments; the parity calculation module being embodied as an
 application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC);

 with the ASIC:

 receiving one or more data segments that are to be used to
 calculate one or more parity segments;

15 receiving one or more parity coefficients that are to be used to
 calculate the one or more parity segments, wherein:

 the one or more parity coefficients are chosen from a
 plurality of coefficient subsets; and

 each said coefficient subset is classified based on a
20 respective parity operation into one of a plurality of groups;

 operating on the one or more data segments and the one or more
 parity coefficients to provide an intermediate computation result;

 writing the intermediate computation result to one or more local
 buffers on the ASIC; and

25 using the intermediate computation result from the one or more
 local buffers to calculate one or more parity segments.

5 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the ASIC has multiple
local memory components to hold data that is used in the calculation of the
parity segments.

 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said act of operating is
10 performed by one or more finite mathematical operator components.

 4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising maintaining
multiple parity coefficients in one or more local memory components on the
ASIC thereby reducing external memory access operations.

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 5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said receiving one or
more parity coefficients comprises receiving the coefficients from the one or
more local memory components and into one or more finite mathematical
operator components that are configured to provide the intermediate
20 computation result.

 6. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising providing
feedback from the one or more local buffers to one or more mathematical
operator components that are configured to perform said operating.

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 7. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising:
 receiving one or more additional data segments that are to be
used to calculate one or more parity segments;
 receiving one or more additional parity coefficients that are to be
30 used to calculate the one or more parity segments;

5 receiving the intermediate computation result from the one or more local buffers;

operating on the one or more additional data segments, the one or more additional parity coefficients, and the intermediate computation result to provide a result; and

10 writing the result to one or more local buffers on the ASIC.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said result that is provided by said operating on the one or more additional data segments, the one or more additional parity coefficients, and the intermediate computation
15 result comprises an additional intermediate computation result.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said result that is provided by said operating on the one or more additional data segments, the one or more additional parity coefficients, and the intermediate computation
20 result comprises one or more parity segments.

10. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said one or more local buffers comprise SRAMs.

25 11. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said one or more local buffers comprise SRAMs, and said acts of claim 7 are performed within one clock cycle of a system clock.

5 12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said one or more
local buffers comprise SRAMs.

13. (Original) A method of calculating parity segments comprising:
providing a parity calculation module configured to calculate one or
10 more parity segments, the parity calculation module being embodied as an
application-specific integrated circuit (ASIC);

with the ASIC:

receiving one or more data segments that are to be used to
calculate one or more parity segments;

15 receiving one or more parity coefficients that are to be used to
calculate the one or more parity segments;

operating on the one or more data segments and the one or more
parity coefficients to provide an intermediate computation result;

20 writing the intermediate computation result to one or more local
buffers on the ASIC;

using the intermediate computation result from the one or more
local buffers to calculate one or more parity segments; and

25 providing feedback from the one or more local buffers to one or
more mathematical operator components that are configured to perform
said operating, wherein said feedback on a first pass through the one or
more mathematical operator components does not affect computations
performed by the one or more mathematical operator components.

5 14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein said feedback on the
first pass is zeroed out.

15. (Original) A method of calculating parity segments comprising:
providing a parity calculation module configured to calculate one or
10 more parity segments;

with the parity calculation module:

receiving one or more data segments that are to be used to
calculate one or more parity segments;

receiving one or more parity coefficients that are to be used to
15 calculate the one or more parity segments;

operating on the one or more data segments and the one or more
parity coefficients to provide an intermediate computation result;

writing the intermediate computation result to one or more local
buffers; and

20 within one clock cycle of an associated clock, receiving (a) the
intermediate computation result from the one or more local buffers, (b)
one or more additional data segments and (c) one or more additional
parity coefficients, and operating on them to provide a result that is
stored in the one or more local buffers.

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16. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the parity
calculation module comprises an application specific integrated circuit (ASIC).

5 17. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the one or more
local buffers comprise SRAMs.

 18. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the parity
calculation module comprises an application specific integrated circuit (ASIC),
10 and the one or more local buffers comprise SRAMs on the ASIC.

 19. (Original) The method of claim 15, wherein the parity
calculation module comprises one or more local memory components
configured to locally hold data that is used in the calculation of the parity
15 segments.

 20. (Original) A parity segment calculation module comprising:
an application specific integrated circuit (ASIC) having at least:
 one or more result buffers for holding intermediate computation
20 results;
 one or more mathematical operator components configured to
receive data segments and coefficients associated with the data segments
and operate on them to provide intermediate computation results that
can be written to the one or more result buffers, wherein the coefficients
25 are chosen from a plurality of coefficient subsets, each said coefficient
subset is classified based on a respective parity operation; and
 one or more feedback lines, individual lines being coupled
between an associated result buffer and an associated mathematical
operator component, to provide an intermediate computation result to
30 the math operator for use in calculating parity segments.

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21. (Original) The parity segment calculation module of claim 20,
wherein the one or more result buffers comprise at least one SRAM.

22. (Original) The parity segment calculation module of claim 20,
10 wherein the one or more result buffers comprise multiple SRAMs.

23. (Original) The parity segment calculation module of claim 20,
wherein the one or more result buffers comprise two SRAMs.

15 24. (Original) A method of calculating parity segments comprising:
providing a parity calculation module configured to calculate one or
more parity segments;

with the parity module:

20 receiving one or more data segments that are to be used to
calculate one or more parity segments;

receiving one or more parity coefficients that are to be used to
calculate the one or more parity segments, wherein:

the one or more parity coefficients are chosen from a
plurality of coefficient subsets; and

25 each said coefficient subset is classified based on a
respective parity operation into one of a plurality of groups;

operating on the one or more data segments and the one or more
parity coefficients to provide an intermediate computation result;

30 writing the intermediate computation result to one or more local
buffers; and

5 using the intermediate computation result from the one or more
local buffers to calculate one or more parity segments.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the parity module
has multiple local memory components to hold data that is used in the
10 calculation of the parity segments.

26. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein said act of
operating is performed by one or more finite mathematical operator
components.

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27. (Original) The method of claim 24 further comprising
maintaining multiple parity coefficients in one or more local memory
components on the parity module thereby reducing external memory access
operations.

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28. (Original) The method of claim 27, wherein said receiving one
or more parity coefficients comprises receiving the coefficients from the one or
more local memory components and into one or more finite mathematical
operator components that are configured to provide the intermediate
25 computation result.

29. (Original) The method of claim 24 further comprising providing
feedback from the one or more local buffers to one or more mathematical
operator components that are configured to perform said operating.

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5 **30.** (Original) The method of claim 29 further comprising:
 receiving one or more additional data segments that are to be
 used to calculate one or more parity segments;
 receiving one or more additional parity coefficients that are to be
 used to calculate the one or more parity segments;
10 receiving the intermediate computation result from the one or
 more local buffers;
 operating on the one or more additional data segments, the one or
 more additional parity coefficients, and the intermediate computation
 result to provide a result; and
15 writing the result to one or more local buffers on the parity
 module.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein said result that is
 provided by said operating on the one or more additional data segments, the
20 one or more additional parity coefficients, and the intermediate computation
 result comprises an additional intermediate computation result.

32. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein said result that is
 provided by said operating on the one or more additional data segments, the
25 one or more additional parity coefficients, and the intermediate computation
 result comprises one or more parity segments.

33. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein said one or more
 local buffers comprise SRAMs.

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5 34. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein said one or more
local buffers comprise SRAMs, and said acts of claim 30 are performed within
one clock cycle of a system clock.

 35. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein said one or more
10 local buffers comprise SRAMs.